February 8, 2022 Special Election

King County Official Local Voters' Pamphlet

as requested by the Fife School District No. 417

Vote Centers

Vote Centers are available for voters that need assistance. Each center has voting machines that offer audio or large print ballots, and other assistive devices. Elections staff are available to assist as needed. Voters can also register to vote and get their ballots at Vote Centers through 8 p.m. on Election Day.

Location	Hours of operation	
King County Elections 919 SW Grady Way Renton, WA 98057	Weekdays, January 19 – February 7, 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. Election Day, February 8, 8:30 a.m. – 8:00 p.m.	

Access Your Ballot Online

Access and print your ballot online! Those with disabilities or others who choose to do so may mark their selections on the ballot online before printing – or you can choose to print out a blank ballot to mark by hand. Online ballot access has been designed specifically to enable voters who are blind or have low vision to cast a private ballot and is available to all registered voters.

Just print, sign, follow the instructions for packaging, and return as you normally would – by mail or by drop box before boxes close at 8 p.m. sharp on Election Day.

Access your ballot at kingcounty.gov/elections/obmp.

If none of the above voting options work for you, please contact our office.

Register to vote

Online

You can register to vote online at VoteWA.gov -- all you need is two minutes and a Washington State Driver's License or ID. You can register online by January 31 for this election.

By mail

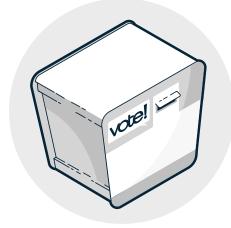
Download and print a registration form from kingcounty.gov/elections and mail it to King County Elections. It must be received by January 31 for this Special election.

In person

You can register in person through February 8, Election Day, at King County Elections headquarters. More information about hours and and services can be found at kingcounty.gov/elections



Ballot drop boxes



All 74 drop boxes across King County will be open for this election. To find the complete list, please see the other pamphlet in your ballot packet or visit kingcounty.gov/elections.

Ballot drop boxes close at 8 p.m. sharp on Election Day, February 8.





Proposition No. 1 Replacement Educational Programs and Operations Levy

The Board of Directors of Fife School District No. 417 adopted Resolution No. 21-20 concerning a replacement levy for education. If approved, Proposition No. 1 will authorize the District to levy the following excess taxes, replacing an expiring levy, on all taxable property within the District, to fund education programs and school operations not funded, or not fully funded, by the State's statutory program:

Collection <u>Years</u>	Estimated Levy Rate per \$1,000 of <u>Assessed Value</u>	Levy <u>Amount</u>
2023	\$1.81	\$10,593,000
2024	\$1.77	\$11,017,000
2025	\$1.74	\$11,458,000
2026	\$1.74	\$12,145,000

as provided in Resolution No. 21-20. Should Proposition No. 1 be approved?

Yes

No

The complete text of this measure is available at the Elections Office or online at kingcounty.gov/elections.

Statement in favor

Submitted by: Jessica Connaway, len Kiaune. jessicaconnaway4@gmail.com To maintain high quality education

for our children, the Citizens for Fife/Milton Schools is asking our community to support the Educational Programs and Operations replacement levy for 2023 to 2026 by voting "Yes" for Proposition 1.

The current levy expires in 2022. This replacement levy continues longstanding local community support to ensure the success of our students and schools. This *replacement levy* provides the lowest tax rates in the

Your "Yes" vote is so important. Your "Yes" vote will continue funding additional teachers and classified staff to keep class sizes small. Your "Yes" vote will support special student programs, instructional materials. student safety, and transportation; your "Yes" vote will provide maintenance, grounds, and custodial services to ensure longevity of our schools. Your "Yes" vote will continue funding athletics, the arts, and extracurricular activities.

Our children are counting on your "Yes" vote. This levy will continue the resources and educational programs and services our children and community deserve. Please vote "Yes" for the Educational Programs and Operations replacement levy.

Explanatory statement

Passage of Proposition No. 1 would replace an expiring levy and allow the levy of \$10,593,000 in property taxes within Fife School District for

For questions about this measure, contact: Kari Harris, Assistant Superintendent, Business Services, (253) 517-1000, kharris@fifeschools.com

collection in 2023, the levy of \$11,017,000 for collection in 2024, the levy of \$11,458,000 for collection in 2025, and the levy of \$12,145,000 for collection in 2026. In accordance with Resolution No. 21-20 approving this proposition, these taxes would be deposited in the Fife School District's General Fund to pay part of the general expenses of operating the District which are not fully funded by the state. General expenses include employee costs (such as salaries), instructional materials, special programs, activities and sports, transportation costs, maintenance of facilities and other non-capital expenses of operating the District schools. If authorized by the voters, and based on projected assessed valuation information, estimated levy rates per \$1,000 of assessed value would be \$1.81 (2023 collection), \$1.77 (2024 collection), \$1.74 (2025 collection), and \$1.74 (2026 collection). The exact levy rate shall be adjusted based upon the actual assessed value of the property within the District at the time of the levy.

Exemptions from taxes may be available to certain homeowners. To determine if you qualify, call your county assessor.

Statement in opposition

Submitted by: Jeff Heckathorn, info@schooldataproject.com

In 2018, the McCleary Decision was promised to be a levy swap. Instead,

state school property taxes increased dramatically and local school taxes never went away and are again spiraling out of control.

For 2020-2021, for the district's administrators, the median total compensation was \$197,740 with a high of \$292,386. Median teacher compensation is at \$129,220 up 35% in the last 3 years - multiple times

The argument that this levy is for a certain few duty types is disingenuous and heartless at best. The district complains that this levy fills the gap left from state legislators. The legislators are correct in saying no to the district. Local voters should do the same.

Nearly all districts try to just focus on how our property tax rates will remain nearly flat as if that has or will do us any favors. A flat tax rate multiplied by skyrocketing assessed property values equals skyrocketing taxes in dollars (paid for by property owners and renters in their rents). Please provide your input and vote. More details at, www. schooldataproject.com

Proposition No. 2 **Replacement Capital Projects Technology Levy**

The Board of Directors of Fife School District No. 417 adopted Resolution No. 21-21 concerning a replacement levy for capital technology levies. If approved, Proposition No. 2 will authorize the District to levy the following excess taxes on all taxable property within the District to fund acquisition of educational technology, equipment and training, including classroom computers:

Collection <u>Years</u>	Estimated Levy Rate per \$1,000 <u>Assessed Value</u>	Levy <u>Amount</u>
2023	\$0.34	\$2,000,000
2024	\$0.34	\$2,100,000
2025	\$0.34	\$2,250,000
2026	\$0.34	\$2,400,000
2027	\$0.34	\$2,550,000
2028	\$0.34	\$2,700,000

as provided in Resolution No. 21-21. Should Proposition No. 2 be approved?

Yes

No

The complete text of this measure is available at the Elections Office or online at kingcounty.gov/elections.

Statement in favor

Submitted by: Jessica Connaway, Jen Kiaune, jessicaconnaway4@gmail.com

Yes! On Prop. 2 - Up-to-date tools for Teaching and Learning Proposition 2

will make system upgrades in all neighborhood schools to student and classroom technology, and replace outdated student computers. This levy helps prepare students for their future in college and the workplace; a world of digital technology and information. It will provide students with immediate access to digital resources, essential to their success in the 21st century.

Yes! On Prop. 2 - Technology Provides Equity and Access for Every Student, Every Day This levy will help Fife Public Schools provide all students with access to updated computers and instructional technology, and expand computer-based curriculum. Students will be able to collaborate and create in unprecedented ways.

Yes! On Prop. 2 - This is Not a Tax Increase - Replacement of an Expiring Technology This levy will cost an estimated \$.34 cents per thousand of assessed home value per year. This amount is comparable to the previous technology levy, and is *Not* projected to increase each year!

Explanatory statement

Passage of Proposition No. 2 would allow the levy of \$2,000,000 in property taxes within Fife School District No. 417 for collection in

For questions about this measure, contact: Kari Harris, Assistant Superintendent, Business Services, (253) 517-1000, kharris@fifeschools.com

2023, the levy of \$2,100,000 for collection in 2024, the levy of \$2,250,000 for collection in 2025, the levy of \$2,400,000 for collection in 2026, the levy of \$2,550,000 for collection in 2027, and the levy of \$2,700,000 for collection in 2028. In accordance with Resolution No. 21-21 approving this proposition, these taxes would be collected over six years and deposited in the District's Capital Projects Fund to pay for expanded student and teacher access through one-to-one computer devices, updated and expanded learning software with more interactive technologies, staff training and implementation support, technology infrastructure improvements districtwide including replacement of outdated computers, and districtwide technology improvements for more effective teaching and learning. If authorized by the voters, and based on projected assessed valuation information, estimated levy rates per \$1,000 of assessed value would be \$0.34 (2023 collection); \$0.34 (2024 collection); \$0.34 (2025 collection); \$0.34 (2026 collection), \$0.34 (2027 collection), \$0.34 (2028 collection). The exact levy rate shall be adjusted based upon the actual assessed value of the property within the District at the time of the levy.

Statement in opposition

Submitted by: Jeff Heckathorn, info@schooldataproject.com

These cap levy items should come out of the General Fund. If salaries were not so bloated this would be possible.

These levies should be rejected. There should be no tax measures whatsoever on the ballot in February. February is the lowest voter turnout election of the year. Understandably. Most citizens are just learning that there are levies to vote on - again. We just had the holidays. Citizens have voting fatigue. And, importantly, citizens won't even receive their property tax bills for the year until a month later in March. How convenient.

In the interest of high voter participation, these important, large tax measures (which affect all property owners and renters in their rents) should be only on the November Election. It is irresponsible for the district to propose property tax measures a month before voters see their property tax bills.

The state will never be able to fulfill its constitutional obligation of fullyfunding schools so long as local districts are allowed to spend more than the ample provision the state provides. Until that changes, citizens need to reject these local levies like the ones before you today. More details at www.schooldataproject.com

Rebuttal of statement in opposition

Please learn the facts. Levies provide local funding for much needed student programs and services not provided by the state. Our current levy is expiring. This replacement levy is absolutely essential to maintain programs! Your school district is asking for *millions less* from our local citizens because of the McCleary decision. Please join us in voting Yes for this replacement levy to continue supporting all students. Get accurate information about this levy at www.fifeschools.com.

Rebuttal of statement in favor

In 2019-2020, per pupil expenditures (including capital outlays and interest on debt) for the district were already at \$18,000. That's above tuition and books at many universities let alone most private K-12 schools.

In 2018, because of the McCleary Decision, state legislators pumped billions more dollars into our public schools, largely from increased property taxes. There is no amount of money monopoly school districts will be satisfied with. Citizens are crying uncle. Enough!

Rebuttal of statement in opposition

Your Yes vote will provide funding for our students and teachers to have continued access to student devices, classroom technology, software, and infrastructure. Your Yes vote will ensure our kids have access to the current technologies they need to learn, compete and succeed in a global economy. Providing up to date technology for every student is essential! Don't be mislead. Please learn the facts and go to www.fifeschools.com

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